DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF DACCA, 1891.

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No. 215—XXIV, dated Dacca, the 25th April 1892.

From—T. L. JENKINS, Esq., Collector of Dacca,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

WITH reference to your Circular No. 7T.F., dated the 3rd October 1891, calling for a report on the results of the last Census, I have the honour to submit the following remarks under each of the heads.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF DACCA, 1891.

HEAD I.—EARLY HISTORY, ETC.

VERY little is known of the early history of Dacca. Prior to the reign of Jehangir, Dacca appears to have been a place of no political or commercial importance, as the name does not even appear in the celebrated Tuksim jama of Akbar. In the year 1575, when the generals of Akbar invaded and reduced the province of Bengal, Sonargong was the principal commercial city. When Jehangir, however, chose Dacca for the residence of the Governors of Bengal, its name was changed to Jehangirnagar, and the trade of Sonargong rapidly declined. The city of Dacca soon increased in extent and population, and in a few years became one of the first cities in Bengal. An unknown writer of an account of Dacca says that, when it was the seat of Government and in its greatest splendour under Muhammadan rule, its limits, including suburbs, appear to have extended from the Buriganga river, south, to Tangi bridge, north, a distance of about 15 miles or thereabouts, and Jaffarabad, west, to Postgola, east, a distance of about 10 miles. The population of an area of this magnitude must have been large. The numerous wells and traces of buildings still remaining are clear signs of most of this area having been at sometime or other thickly populated. But whether all this area was ever occupied by a city at one and the same time, is not equally certain. It is well known that the site of the main city has shifted considerably within comparatively recent times, and the same process of gradual shifting may have gone on in earlier times, and the city may not therefore have been so large as its ruins would seem to show.

2. In 1801 the population of Dacca, Jelalpur, which, besides the present district, comprised also the greater part of the districts of Faridpur and Backergunge, was computed at 938,712 souls. In 1824, after the separation of Faridpur and Backergunge, the Superintendent of Police estimated the population of Dacca at 512,385; and in 1851 it was officially returned at 600,000 only. The Superintendent of Revenue Survey again arrived at the conclusion that the population of the Dacca district between 1857–60 consisted of—

Hindus	...	455,182
Muhammadans	...	449,223
Christians	...	210
Total	...	904,615

The statistics of the Lower Provinces of Bengal for 1868-69, issued by the Board of Revenue, estimated the total population at 1,019,928. The Census of 1872 showed that the Hindus numbered 793,789, or 42· per cent. of the whole population, and Muhammadans 1,050,131, or 56·67 per cent. The Census of 1881 showed that the Hindus numbered 856,680, or about 40·5 per cent. of the whole population, and Muhammadans 1,250,687, or about 59·1 per cent. of the whole population of 2,116,350, including Christians and others. In the last Census the Hindus numbered 935,565, or about 38·7 per cent. of the whole population, and Muhammadans 1,473,799, or 60·8 per cent. of the whole population of 2,420,656, including Christians and others.

3. It is worthy of note that the population of the town of Dacca has largely increased. In 1801 the population of the town was estimated at 200,000, and Bishop Heber in 1823 supposed that it contained 90,000 houses and 300,000 inhabitants. In 1814 the Chaukidari tax was levied on 21,361 houses; in 1830 the number of houses had fallen to 10,708. In the latter year a census was taken by the Judge and Magistrate, H. Walter, Esq., when the population was ascertained to be 66,989. Dr. Taylor asserts that in 1838 the Muhammadans constituted the principal portion of the inhabitants in the city, their numbers exceeding that of the Hindu population to the extent of 4,309 in a population of 60,617. The city continued to decline for some years until the trade in jute and country produce began to make up for the loss of its cotton manufactures. In 1867 the population of the city was estimated

at 51,636 only. In 1872 it was ascertained to be 69,212 by a regular census, and in 1881 79,076. It is now 82,321.

4. The population of the town of Narayanganj, which is of next importance in the district after Dacca town, has also largely increased. In 1838 the population amounted to 6,252; in 1871 it contained about 9,400 souls. The Census of 1872 disclosed a total population of 10,911, and in 1881 it was ascertained to be 12,508. It is now 17,715.

5. It will be observed that the Muhammadans appear to have settled in great numbers from the time they conquered the country, and to have constituted at an early period the principal body of inhabitants of this district. For a considerable period, Dacca was the capital of Bengal under the Muhammadan rule, and up to the time when the British assumed the administration of the country, the district was governed by deputies on behalf of the Mussalman kings of Bengal. During the Muhammadan supremacy large numbers of the inhabitants of the district either willingly or through compulsion were converted to Islamism. This, and the fact that the Muhammadans multiply more rapidly, are, I believe, the causes of the existing predominance of the Mussalman element in this district. It is not either to any extensive change of religion in the last 20 years, or to immigration of Muhammadans, that the increasing predominance in numbers of the Mussalman element in Dacca is due.

6. The Muhammadans are almost all Shaiks, the Sayyids, Moguls, and Pathans being few in number. The latter were, however, at one time numerous in the district. The lower classes of Muhammadans are divided into communities according to the occupations they follow, and some of these are quite as exclusive as the Hindu castes in regard to marrying and eating with each other. This apparently points to the conclusion that the great mass of the Muhammadan community were originally converts from the people of the country at the time of the Muhammadan conquest, as, if a great number of Muhammadans had settled in Dacca, they would probably not show such close assimilation with the rest of the population.

7. From an early period the Hindus have been most numerous in the southern division of the district. The origin of the Brahmans of this district is traced to the introduction of 5 Brahmans from Kanouj by Adisur, King of Gour, about A.D. 900, but there are grounds for believing that the Vaidik and Saptasati were earlier immigrants, and it is probable that the first Aryan settlers in Bengal claimed to be the aristocracy of the new country and, as a natural consequence, to be Brahmans—an idea inseparable in the Aryan mind from the rank of an aristocracy. This supposition acquires additional probability from the surviving tradition that Adisur, finding the original Brahmans of the country incapable of performing certain religious ceremonies, banished them from Bikrampur, and invited to his kingdom five learned Brahmans from Kanouj, a city in the North-Western Provinces. These persons are said to have come into the district with their sons and families, amounting to 59 persons. Villages and lands were assigned for their maintenance, and their descendants were subsequently divided into classes distinguished by the names of their several districts. During the two following centuries the Brahmans increased so fast by births and by the influx of other settlers from Hindustan, that Ballal Sen in the eleventh century found society in such a state of confusion that he set about reforming it, and divided the Brahmans, Baidyas, Kayasthas, and pure Sudras into different classes. The descendants of the Kanouj Brahmans were first divided into two classes—Rarhi and Barendra—so called from the locality in which they resided. The Rarhi Brahmans, or those living in the country bounded on the north and east by the rivers Bhagirathi and Ganges, numbered 59 families, of whom 22 were made Kulins, and the remaining 37 Srotriyas. The Barendras, who lived in the part bounded to the south and west by the Ganges and Mahananda, numbered 17 families, of whom 9 were made Kulins and 8 Srotriyas. A Rarhi Kulin has the privilege of marrying 4 wives without losing his Kulinship—one of them must be the daughter of a Srotriya—but he is at liberty to select the others from the daughters of Kulins of his own rank. If he marries more than this number, he forfeits his true Kulinship and becomes a Shakrita Bhango, or broken caste Kulin, and may, without further prejudice or loss of caste, marry an unlimited number of the daughters of those who, like himself, have forfeited their Kulinship or of their descendants. The latter, or the offspring of the "Shakrita Bhanga" Kulins, from intermarrying with each other and with superior castes, have become very numerous since the time of Ballal Sen, and they now constitute a third class called "Bangsaja." The greater number of Kulins in this district are of "Shakrita Bhanga" caste. The Barendra Brahmans are very few in number in this district.

8. The two next castes, Baidyas and Kayasthas, comprise a great number of the Hindu population of the district.

9. The Sudras consist of numerous low-caste Hindus. Amongst them the nine castes noted in the margin—ordinarily known as "Navasakhas—" were ranked by Ballal Sen as superior to others. Of these, the Tantis or weavers, formed at one time the most numerous class in the district, but with the decline of the cloth trade their numbers have gradually decreased.

(1) Tanti.
(2) Sadgop.
(3) Mali.
(4) Teli.
(5) Modak.
(6) Barui.
(7) Kumhar.
(8) Kamar.
(9) Napit.

10. The several low castes comprise a great number of classes engaged in various trades and occupations, and constitute a great number of the Hindu population of the district.

11. In the northern division of the district there reside some hill tribes from an early period, such as Tipperas, Kochhs Bansis, Bunas, and a few Manipuris.

12. There are a few families of Manipuri people settled at Lalkuti, north of the old Portuguese settlement of Tezganj on the Mymensingh road. The Collector in 1871 reported (see Dr. Hunter's account, page 41) that there were two classes of Manipuri people in the district. The first class consisted of 11 political refugees, who had been removed from the frontier by orders of Government to prevent their fomenting disturbances and making raids in Manipur. These people settled at Tezgao—a short distance—north of Dacca city. They were all supported by Government. The other divisions of Manipuris were voluntary settlers, and in 1871 numbered about 25 souls. They came to the district about 40 years ago owing to disturbances in their own country.

13. About a hundred persons were imported from Hill Tippera more than 20 years ago by Raja Kali Narain Rai, father of Raja Rajendra Narain Rai, Bahadur of Jaydebpur, for the purpose of clearing the Bhowal jungles. Dr. Hunter asserts that the Kochhs and Bansis came to Dacca originally from Kuch Bihar some six or seven generations ago. These aboriginal tribes are supposed to be the last remnant in this part of the country of the population of the ancient kingdom of Kamrup, which extended down to the Buriganga. They are probably sprung from the same origin as the Kochh and Rajbansi tribes in Rangpur and Assam, and are a poor ignorant race, knowing nothing of their own history and having no traditions regarding their ancestors.

14. The Bunas mostly came from Burdwan, Birbhum, and the hilly tracts about Bhagalpur. All these hill tribes are permanent settlers. They mostly live in Bhowal, Kashimpur, and Talipabad *parganas*.

15. In addition to the above classes, there are a few colonies of emigrants from other parts of India. The street coolies are natives of the North-Western districts of Bengal, and have been settled here for more than a century and a half. There are also natives of the North-Western Provinces or up-country men extensively employed as policemen, *barkandazes*, and peons, in the service of Government and also of native zamindars and other private individuals, who have their homes mostly up-country.

16. The Portuguese were the first European people who visited this part of India (see Dr. Hunter's account, page 44). In 1517 John de Silveyra arrived with four vessels from the Maldives, with the intention of establishing a factory at Dacca. In 1621 a body of Portuguese mercenaries accompanied Nawab Ibrahim Khan as gunners of his fleet, when he was pursued by the Emperor Shah Jehan to Rajmahal, and about 1663 a considerable number of them deserted from the service of the Raja of Aracan at the time he was attacked by Shaistha Khan, and received from that General a grant of land in Dacca where they settled. The present Portuguese or *Feringis* as they are termed, are the descendants of these men, who are said to have been settled in Feringibazar near Munshiganj; at the present day they are settled in various parts of the district. From constant intermarriages with women of the country, they have now become similar in appearance to the natives, and have adopted entirely native habits.

17. The English appear to have settled in Dacca about the year 1660. Tavernier alludes to the English Factory, and mentions the name of its Chief in 1666, about which time Indian muslins were first introduced into England. In 1678 the Company's Agents presented Sultan Muhammad Azim with an offering of upwards of £2,000, in exchange for which they received his order for free trade without payment of duties. In 1686 the factory was confiscated by Shaistha Khan, and three years later the whole of the property of the Company in Bengal was seized by order of the Emperor Aurungzebe, and the English in Dacca were placed in irons. Prior to 1760, however, the number of Company's servants attached to the Dacca Factory did not exceed five in number. In 1778 there were 37 English residents in the district and in 1838, 47. In 1867 the Magistrate reported the number of European, East Indian, and Armenian residents—official and non-official—as 69, but this must have been only for the Dacca town. In 1872 the number of Europeans in the district was returned at 209, and Americans at 2. In 1881 the number of Europeans was 187 and American 1. In the last Census the Europeans numbered 223.

18. The Armenian community at one time formed a large and flourishing part of the population, but in 1871 they were reduced to less than 100. The Census of 1872 disclosed a total Armenian population in the district of 113. In 1881 the population was 48 only, and the last Census has returned their number at 34.

19. There are very few Greeks in Dacca now, although they once formed an important body. According to the Census of 1872, the European Greeks numbered only 13 in the district. In 1881 their number was 8, and in this Census, 2.

20. *Area.*—The district contained an area of 2,902 square miles as revised by the Surveyor-General in 1871. The area given in the Census Report of 1872 is 2,897 square miles. The Collector explained that the jurisdiction of the district in the Revenue, Magisterial, and Civil Departments was the same, and that the slight discrepancy of five miles between the Census area and the Surveyor-General's, scarcely required explanation (see Dr. Hunter's account page 34). The area of the district according to the Census of 1881 is 2,797 square miles. The difference is owing to a change of jurisdiction in 1874 under Government orders No. 109, dated the 27th August 1874. After 1881 no marked changes of jurisdiction has occurred.

21. *Boundaries.*—The district is bounded on the east, south, and west, and for about one half on the north, by rivers; on the east it is separated from Tippera by the river Meghna; on the south, by the Padma river, and lower down the Kirtinasa lies between Dacca and the districts of Faridpur and Backergunge; on the west it is separated from the

Pabna district by the river Jamuna; on the north it is bounded by the district of Mymensingh.

22. *Physical features.*—Dacca is essentially a water district. By far the larger part of the district lies below the level of the rivers during the rainy season. Surrounded on three sides by enormous rivers, it is also intersected by other large rivers, and when, from the melting of the snow and the rainfall, these rise to their full height in July and August, the greater part of the district is submerged

23. The presence of these enormous rivers and innumerable smaller streams and *khals*, together with the general low level of the country, form the two most marked physical features of this district. Unless these features are thoroughly realized, very many of the peculiarities of the Dacca district will not be understood. They determine the method of cultivation and the whole system of communication. Even in the dry season, when the rivers fall and the country is drained, the big rivers remain to obstruct communication on foot or horseback, and the smaller streams, while frequently dry at some points, so as to prevent their use for boat traffic, have reaches of deep water which cannot be forded, such as the tract of country between the Dhaleswari and the Ganges, excepting only some high land in the Bikrampur *pargana* in the neighbourhood of the head-quarters of the Munshiganj subdivision, which seems to have been, to a great extent, artificially formed. North of the Dhaleswari again, as far eastwards as the Bunsi river the country is similar, and so it is also between the Lakhia and the Meghna, excepting only a small part in the north-east corner of the district, and some small extent of high lands near the old town of Sonargong in the Narayanganj *thana*.

24. The country to the north of Dacca city and between the Lakhia and the Bunsi rivers, and in the north-east corner of the district between the Lakhia and the old Brahmaputra rivers, presents different features; whereas, the rest of the district is a wholly alluvial level plain now undergoing a process of elevation by the yearly deposits of silt brought down by the great rivers; in the part now under description, the level of the land is high. A very little way below the surface, and at some places cropping up to the surface, and at others exposed in high banks, where the rivers have cut deep channels as in the upper reaches of the Lakhia river, a layer of stiff red clay occurs. This layer is of considerable depth, and offers very great resistance to the erosive action of the rivers, forming steep banks capable of turning back a powerful river like the Dhaleswari, as it does at Sabhar. Hillocks occur throughout this tract, but in the northern part these hillocks, or as they are called *tilahs*, are more frequent. Here in the north the country is very broken and rugged, and though considerable progress has been made in bringing it into cultivation in the last ten years, a large part of it still remains unproductive waste covered with jungle. This country is well wooded and contains some extensive forests of *gajal* trees. Interspersed throughout the high land, extensive alluvial plains occur, and everywhere there are numerous large *bils* and *jhils*. Where the *tilahs* or hillocks are more crowded together as in the north, frequent deep dips called *baids* are found, which, in many instances, are full of water throughout the year and are impassable even to elephants, necessitating lengthy *detours* to avoid them. In other parts of this tract are large open plains which are not subject to floods, but, unlike most of the district, are dependent exclusively upon the rains for their cultivation. The scenery in this tract of country to the north of the district is necessarily very wild, and on the banks of the Bunsi and upper reaches of the Lakhia, which are high and well wooded, it is very beautiful. In the other parts of the district it is impossible not to be impressed by the vast rivers and the wide expanses of inland water topped with grass or rice, which are striking features in the rains. Along the smaller streams and *khals* on the high banks of which the houses are mostly built, the characteristic Bengali homesteads, with their curved roof, almost buried in village jungle, and the great variety of graceful trees, afford many picturesque effects.

25. In many parts of the district the houses are built on artificially raised mounds, which, in the rainy season, stand up as tiny islands in a sea. In a year of unusually high floods, such as occurred recently in 1886, the houses were in many instances flooded, and great discomfort and much loss took place. An important feature which should not be omitted, since it is very characteristic of this district, is the continual process of formation of *chars* which is going on. Land is continually being cut away in one place, and thrown up in another. It is natural that with the large rivers in and round this district, very big *chars* should be formed. Their cultivation is often very precarious, but also in many cases they yield magnificent crops when the conditions happen to be favourable. Every variety of *char* is to be seen in this district, from the sandy *char* just formed of low level to the rich and high *char* lands of many years' formation. They form an important administrative as well as physicial feature of the district, since they are the scenes of many desperate fights between rival landowners for their possession.

26. *Changes in the course of rivers.*—Enormous changes have taken place in the course of the rivers within historical times, and even of late years great changes have taken place, and are still going on.

27. These changes are for the most part gradual, but now and again as it alters its bed, a big river will come into contact with another river, which will perhaps absorb nearly all its stream, leaving the old bed below the junction almost dry.

28. Such a case evidently occurred when the old Brahmaputra channel, which passes by Manahardi outpost (sometimes now called the Lakhia river), joined the true Lakhia at Lakpur near Ekdulla, when it left the lower reaches of this branch of the old Brahmaputra almost

dry. Many of the rivers of this district have been affected by such changes outside the district. Thus the old Brahmaputra, which skirts the north-east of the district, has been reduced to a comparatively small stream, but in Dr. Taylor's "Topography of Dacca" published in 1840, it is described as two miles broad.

29. The most important recent change in the district is that which is going on in the Dhaleswari. An important opening of this river was not so very long ago by the Gajghatta *khal*, which even now brings much water into it in the rains. Formerly the principal opening seems to have been still further south at Jafferganj, where the waters of the Ganges used to come in by the Kantabati, now quite silted up. Then, as the Brahmaputra was diverted into the Jamuna, the Ganges point was washed away, the junction of the Ganges and the Jamuna being effected lower down. The Jamuna now feeds the Dhaleswari. For a long time the principal mouth of the Dhaleswari has been at Selimabad in the Mymensingh district. This brought in water past the outpost and important jute mart of Gheor. But quite recently the main opening has been diverted to a place some miles further north near Porabari in Mymensingh, and the main flow of the water comes by another channel shown in the survey map as Manikhali, which has enormously increased in breadth. Great changes have taken place in the configuration of the land near the junction of this inlet and the Dhaleswari, the latter river having been diverted to the west of several villages which it recently passed in the east.

30. Simultaneously with the silting up of the Selimabad mouth, there has been going on a silting up of the mouth of the Buriganga. From a survey recently made, it appears that the island which divides the Buriganga and the Dhaleswari has crept up northwards some miles since the Government Revenue Survey in 1857-60, and the Buriganga mouth has become much smaller. The reduction in the flow of water in the Buriganga channel has had the effect of permitting the formation of several *chars* in this channel, and one has formed in front of the town of Dacca, threatening to cut off the town from communication with Narayanganj for steamers of much draft.

31. It remains to be seen whether the new opening from the Jamuna will materially affect these changes and bring more water into the Buriganga.

32. The Iohamutty *khal* which was at one time an important stream, has become much reduced by these changes, as it draws its water from the Dhaleswari at Gheor, which, as I have stated, has also diminished.

33. The diversion of the Brahmaputra from its old channel through Mymensingh district, and skirting the north-east of the Dacca district, has already been mentioned, and is a change within the former district. It has, however, materially affected this district, for these waters now coming down the Jamuna have swelled the volume of this river and cut away much of the western boundary of the district at Jafferganj. They also join upon the Goalundo point where the Ganges meets the Jamuna with constantly increasing force, as the old channels have become more completely closed. This point has been washed away, and the terminus of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, after many changes, has had to be recently removed to Daulatdea.

34. The Ganges or Padma, or Kirtinasa, as it is termed in the lower reaches, which border this district, has changed considerably and is always changing. It has cut away much land of this district near the old Maluchi Factory in Jaffarganj *thana*, and the factory has been washed away, and again near Bhagyakul in the Srinagar *thana*, there has been much cutting, and many other changes of less importance have occurred. No very decided cutting in any one direction has been observable of late years.

35. The Meghna does not change its course so much as the other large rivers of this district, but the tendency to bring all its waters into the Nawada river has become more marked, and the Meghna proper and the network of channels which lie between the Meghna and the Nawada, have diminished in size and importance, while the Nawada is larger than formerly.

36. The Mendikhali which connects the Nawada at Bhairab Bazar with the old Brahmaputra channel near Naugolbund, has silted up to a great extent within recent years.

37. *Jurisdiction.*—At the time of the permanent settlement in 1793, the Dacca Collectorate consisted of Dacca, Backergunge, and Faridpur. The latter two were subsequently formed into distinct districts in 1817 and 1811, respectively. The present subdivision of Manikganj and a portion of Nawabganj were annexed to Dacca from Faridpur about 1856. The jurisdiction of *thanas* Attia and Moolfatganj were transferred from Dacca to Mymensingh and Backergunge in 1866 and 1871, respectively (see Government notifications published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 15th February 1866, and 17th June 1871). Some changes took place in 1874 under Government orders No. 109, dated 27th August 1874, after which no appreciable change has occurred. The district does not, properly speaking, belong either to the division of the country called *Rarh* which, as at present recognized, commences from the western side of the Ganges, nor to *Barendra Bhumi*, which principally comprises the districts of Rajshahi, Pabna, and Bogra. Dacca in fact belongs to the ancient division of the country known as *Banga*. The Brahmans of this part of the country intermarry with Brahmans in other parts of Bengal, but there has been a difference among the Kayasthas of this part and those inhabiting Central and Western Bengal, though they all acknowledge the Kulinism introduced by Ballal Sen, and though they are the descendants of the same five ancestors who were brought by Adisur with the five Brahmins from Kanouj. This difference arose, perhaps, from the fact that communication was very difficult in those days, and the people of Central and Western Bengal looked upon the Padma and Meghna rivers with a superstitious awe.

HEAD II.—MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION.

38. The following statement shows the population of different *thanas* at the last two Census of 1872 and 1881, and at this Census, and the percentage of increase or decrease.

Statement showing the increase or decrease of the population in each thana.

Subdivision and Thana.	Total Population of both sexes.			Males.			Females.			Variation. Increase (+) Decrease (—).					
										Both sexes.		Males.		Females.	
	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	In comparison with—1872.	In comparison with—1881.	In comparison with—1872.	In comparison with—1881.	In comparison with—1872.	In comparison with—1881.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
SADAR. Sadar, including Keraniganj and Lalbagh.	210,806	244,448	270,167	106,109	122,395	137,070	104,697	122,053	132,197	+ 59,361	+ 25,719	+ 31,861	+ 15,675	+ 27,500	+ 10,144
SADAR. Kapasia ...	106,231	119,515	142,598	55,433	62,234	74,381	50,802	57,281	68,217	+ 36,363	+ 23,083	+ 18,948	+ 12,147	+ 17,415	+ 10,936
SADAR. Sabhar ...	167,709	174,831	207,474	80,864	83,092	100,096	86,845	91,739	107,378	+ 39,765	+ 32,643	+ 19,232	+ 17,004	+ 20,533	+ 15,639
SADAR. Nawabganj ...	136,910	160,235	170,097	64,792	76,507	81,350	72,118	84,728	89,347	+ 33,187	+ 10,462	+ 16,558	+ 5,843	+ 17,299	+ 4,619
NARAYANGANJ. Narayanganj ...	109,533	103,760	138,205	57,099	54,581	75,950	52,434	49,179	62,255	+ 28,672	+ 34,445	+ 18,851	+ 21,369	+ 9,821	+ 13,076
NARAYANGANJ. Rupganj ...	129,770	164,152	197,052	69,669	82,654	100,172	60,161	81,505	96,880	+ 76,282	+ 32,893	+ 30,503	+ 17,518	+ 36,719	+ 15,375
NARAYANGANJ. Raipura ...	155,110	202,738	230,259	78,605	103,549	123,343	76,505	99,189	115,916	+ 84,140	+ 36,521	+ 44,738	+ 19,794	+ 39,411	+ 16,727
MANIKGANJ. Manikganj ...	154,172	184,196	200,038	76,072	89,335	98,094	78,100	94,861	101,944	+ 45,866	+ 15,842	+ 22,022	+ 8,759	+ 23,844	+ 7,083
MANIKGANJ. Harirampur ...	77,721	100,009	100,308	37,682	48,676	49,390	40,039	51,333	50,918	+ 22,587	+ 299	+ 11,708	+ 714	+ 10,879	— 415
MANIKGANJ. Sealoo Aircha or Jaffarganj.	154,153	143,012	148,753	74,849	70,309	73,207	79,304	72,613	75,546	— 5,400	+ 5,741	— 1,642	+ 2,898	+ 3,758	+ 2,933
MUNSHIGANJ. Munshiganj ...	211,450	243,403	292,847	100,830	117,193	142,556	110,620	126,270	150,291	+ 81,397	+ 49,384	+ 41,726	+ 25,363	+ 39,671	+ 24 021
MUNSHIGANJ. Srinagar ...	248,424	275,984	313,258	112,831	124,248	144,074	135,593	151,736	169,184	+ 64,834	+ 37,274	+ 31,243	+ 19,826	+ 33,591	+ 17,448
Total ...	1,852,993	2,116,350	2,420,656	905,775	1,033,803	1,200,583	947,218	1,082,487	1,220,073	+567,663	+304,306	+ 294,808	+ 166,720	+ 272,855	+ 137,586

NOTE No. 1.—The revised figures for 1872 not being reliable, the uncorrected figures shown in the Census Report of 1872 have been adopted in this statement.
NOTE No. 2.—The figures of 1881 have been taken, because corrected figures of sex details according to *thanas* are not available; the difference between the total shown in the report for 1881 and the corrected total of that year shown in the report for 1891 is only 3,345 for the district.

The population would have been somewhat larger, but for the great bathing ceremony termed "Ardhodoy Joga" in the Ganges. The district increase is 14·37 per cent. since the Census of 1881, or an increase of 304,306, the present district population being 2,420,656, against 2,116,350 in 1881.

39. Dacca town shows an increase of 4·10 per cent., the town population being 82,321 against 79,076 of 1881. The population would have been somewhat larger, but that the school boys were mostly absent on account of holidays, while in 1881 all were present.

40. Narayanganj town shows a large increase of 41·62 per cent. This would have been larger still had the Census been taken in the busy season when the jute presses are at full work.

41. The largest increase has been in Narayanganj *thana* and then in Munshiganj *thana*. The Subdivisional Officer of Narayanganj reports that all over the subdivision the population has considerably increased since the Census of 1872, owing to the fact that during the last 20 years the tenants have had a succession of plentiful years, partly caused by the extension of the jute crop, and partly by favourable weather. The increase is not, he thinks, due to immigration in any material degree. Further, he is of opinion that the recent Census may have been more efficient, and included many persons in remote and jungly tracts who escaped the Census of 1872. But without even supposing this, the country with its considerable area of waste and jungly lands, had room for natural extension of cultivation, and the great development of the jute trade has facilitated this increase.

42. The Subdivisional Officer of Munshiganj reports that the cause of increase in his subdivision is, that there is no malaria in that part of the country, and the annual floods flush the country clean, so he thinks the general health of the people being good the population has been increasing. This, however, would not sufficiently explain the increase, for this subdivision is very subject to cholera. It is the home of a very prolific class, the *bhadrolok*, who fill the clerkships and supply educated officers for Government and private appointments. These people are not directly dependent on the soil, but draw their maintenance from a very wide area.

43. Kapasia, Sabhar, and Rupganj show the next largest increase. This is due to reclamation of jungle and increase of cultivation; there is still room for extension in these *thanas*.

44. The Manikganj subdivision and Nawabganj *thana* show the smallest increase. That part of the Manikganj subdivision which lies south and west of the Dhaleswari seems to be deteriorating, and much land is out of cultivation or grows very poor crops. Harirampur *thana*, where there is an actual decrease of population, has lost much land by diluviation. The Nawabganj *thana* has also lost some lands.

45. The foregoing statement will show that in this district the females are in excess of the males. This excess is most marked in the Munshiganj subdivision, and is

explained by the fact noticed above that this famous Bikrampur *pargana* sends out so many men to serve in other parts of India. The excess of males in the towns of Narayanganj and Dacca is only what would be expected; but the excess of males in Kapasia and in a less degree in Rupganj is not so easily explained.

46. *Growth of Towns.*—No new towns have grown up since 1872. The country in its more populous tracts is unsuited to the growth of towns owing to its low level, and the necessity of raising the sites of houses and the absence of any important manufacturing industries, renders it unnecessary to create towns.

47. The large increase of the jute trade and its concentration at Narayanganj has led to a considerable extension of this town.

48. The only distinction between urban and rural population here, is that the former comprises chiefly the mercantile classes, such as weavers, shell-cutters, &c., and the latter chiefly employed in agriculture and service.

49. *Emigration.*—There is in fact no emigration from the district, properly so called. Many Hindus, however, resort to Benares, Brindaban, or some other sacred shrine, to die there. Mussalmans also go in large numbers to Mecca on pilgrimages.

50. On account of the general fertility of the soil, and the flourishing condition of the trade, and the great demand for labour in the district, very few persons leave the district in order to settle elsewhere. The agricultural classes do not migrate, and the labourers of the district have no need to go to any other district as coolies.

51. The district sends boatmen, both Hindus and Muhammadans, up every river in Bengal, Bihar, and Assam; also a number of Muhammadans go out as *khalasis* in steamers and as *khansamas*. The professional classes, such as goldsmiths, blacksmiths, and carpenters also to some extent go in search of employment elsewhere. Educated men of the upper class, *bhadrolak*, go to almost every part of India in search of employment, and there are several thousands of people engaged in Government and private services, whose houses are in this district.

52. *Immigration.*—Men from Bihar and Chota Nagpur come here to find work at the railways and mills, but of these, few settle here permanently. Gangs of coolies from Bihar Birbhum, Hazaribagh and other places come here at the beginning of the winter and do earthwork, and return to their respective homes at the end of the season. The Biharis and people from North-Western Provinces come also as *palki* bearers, street coolies, and domestic servants, but of these, few settle here permanently; a small number also come for the purpose of trade.

53. The jungle and sparsely-inhabited tracts have been partly peopled by hill men, and by men coming from Mymensingh and other neighbouring districts.

54. The population of the large *diara* tracts of the Ganges, Meghna, and Jamuna rivers necessarily move about as the *chars* change. A large immigrant male populaiton is shown within Dacca and Narayanganj Municipalities, the two principal trading centres in the district.

55. *Mining Centres.*—There are no mining centres in this district. Formerly, before iron was imported, the red ferruginous clay of the Madhupur jungle tract was burned and iron smelted from it, but this has long since been given up, and will probably never again be attempted. At the present time, nothing but imported iron is used. In parts of the Madhupur jungle, a black substance, very much resembling iron slag, is found in large quantities. This is being utilized by the Dacca Municipality in metalling the town roads. This substance has never been properly reported on by a qualified geologist.

Head III.—Varying Density of the Population.

56. I submit the enclosed statement showing the density of population in different *thanas*.

General statement showing the area and population of each thana.

Subdivisions and Thanas.		Area in square miles.			Number of towns and villages.			Number of houses.			Total population.			Number of persons per square mile.		
		1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sadar ...	Sadar, including Keraniganj and Lallbagh	319	316	316	517	558	810	37,835	37,185	49,370	210,806	244,448	270,187	661	774	855
	Kapasia	411	420	420	507	504	521	16,320	17,444	24,214	106 235	119,515	142,598	258	285	339
	Sabhar	388	370	370	576	679	813	30,419	36,625	37,272	167,700	174,831	207,474	432	473	561
	Nawabganj	148	160	160	275	341	344	22,376	23,268	33,734	136,910	160,235	170,667	925	1,001	1,067
Narayanganj.	Narayanganj	117	116	116	491	636	715	17,860	17,742	22,143	109,533	103,760	138,205	936	894	1,191
	Rupganj	242	227	227	517	788	824	19,653	13,504	33,202	120,770	164,159	197,052	234	723	868
	Raipura	301	298	298	419	640	637	21,074	26,858	42,937	155,110	202,738	239,259	515	680	803
Manikganj.	Manikganj	230	208	208	378	552	528	20,016	33,655	37,012	154,172	184,196	200,038	670	886	962
	Harirampur ...	92	109	109	213	305	319	12,793	22,187	20,997	77,721	100,009	100,308	845	917	920
	Saaloo Aircha or Jaffarganj	203	172	172	473	534	534	26,703	29,323	29,002	154,153	143,012	148,753	759	831	865
Munshiganj.	Munshiganj	230	198	198	330	424	456	27,074	26,143	51,825	211,430	243,463	292,847	919	1,230	1,479
	Srinagar	216	203	203	320	401	296	32,470	33,171	58,028	248,424	275,984	313,258	1,150	1,360	1,543
	Total ...	2,807	2,797	2,797	5,016	6,422	6,813	290,593	308,095	439,736	1,852,993	2,116,350	2,420,656	640	757	865

Note No. 1.—The revised figures for 1872 not being reliable, the uncorrected figures shown in the Census Report of 1872 have been adopted in this statement.

Note No. 2.—The figures of 1881 have been taken, because corrected figures of sex details according to *thanas* are not available; the difference between the total shown in the report for 1881 and the corrected total of that year shown in the report for 1891 is only 3,345 for the district.

57. It will be observed that the population is most dense in *thanas* Srinagar and Munshiganj. The chief explanation of this is to be found in the history of this country. Bikrampur *pargana*, which forms the jurisdiction of these *thanas*, is considered, historically as well as traditionally, to be the purest place for Brahmans, Baidyas, and Kayasthas to live in, being the old seat of Ballal Sen who, as King of Bengal, created the different orders of Kulinism, and also the temporary residence of the great Vikramaditya of Ujin, from whom the place takes its name. The Brahmans, Baidyas, and Kayasthas of Bikrampur would not for any consideration leave their homes and settle in such places as Bhowal or Talipabad *parganas*.

58. Bikrampur is thus the great home of the *bhadrolok*, and of this class by far the greater number are Hindus, the Muhammadan population being chiefly cultivators on the *diara* and *char* lands. This Hindu population being unable to engage in cultivation or in the ordinary manual occupations, has readily turned to education, and sends out great numbers of men who, as clerks in Government or private service, earn their livelihood.

59. The population is next most dense in *thana* Narayanganj. This is due to its convenient position and open and fertile country. The old capital of Sonargong was in this *thana*, and its importance of recent years has been revived by the growing trade of the port of Narayanganj.

60. The most thinly-peopled *thana* is Kapasia and then Sabhar and Raipura. These thanas consist largely of jungles and broken country. The Madhupur jungle covers a part of the two former *thanas*. This, and part of the Raipura *thana*, differ essentially from the rest of the district in physical characteristics, and offers great opposition to the extension of cultivation.

HEAD IV.—RELIGION.

61. The subjoined statement shows changes in the distribution of people according to religion since 1872.

Statement showing the distribution of the population in each thana according to religion.

SUBDIVISIONS AND THANAS.		Total Population.			Hindus.			Muhammadans.			Christians.			Others.		
		1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
SADAR ..	Sadar, including Keraniganj and Laibagh.	210,806	244,448	270,167	105,814	119,286	129,446	104,011	124,517	139,639	608	587	703	373	58	319
	Kapasia	106 235	119,515	142 508	42,267	43,067	47,118	63,224	75,654	94,135	674	704	979	70		366
	Sabhar	167,700	174,831	207,474	84 269	81,622	97,539	83,305	87,163	109,888	24	46	46	21		1
	Nawabganj	180,910	160,235	170,697	59,142	64 638	68,390	74 271	91,590	98 051	3,446	4,097	4,221	61	...	5
NARAYANGANJ.	Narayanganj	109,533	104,760	158,205	36,504	37,202	47,526	72,950	66,481	90,516	18	39	138	71	38	25
	Rupganj	120,770	164,159	197,052	43,802	49,030	55,483	74 321	111,525	137,984	2,538	3,204	3,590	19		11
	Raipura	155,110	202,738	239,259	41,325	46,705	50,703	113,783	156,033	188,514		..	10	52	.	2
MANIKGANJ.	Manikganj	154,172	184,196	200,038	62,108	64,178	70,511	91,894	115,980	129,526	4	...	2	167	88	
	Harirampur	77,721	100 609	100,308	31,657	39,847	30,350	46 070	60,162	60,045		.	13	14	...	
	Sealoo Aircha or Jaffarganj	154,153	143 012	148,753	62,406	57,017	54,884	91,407	85,993	92,810	2	2	2	338	..	51
MUNSHIGANJ.	Munshiganj ...	211,450	243,463	292 847	90 655	95,285	109,658	120,779	148 149	183 121	14	29	34	2	.	30
	Srinagar	248,424	275,984	314,258	137,690	148,803	163,957	114,177	127,180	148,023	516	1	678	41		.
	Total ..	1,862,998	2,116,350	2,420,656	793,789	856,680	935,565	1,050,131	1,250,567	1,473,790	7,814	8,759	10 476	1,229	184	816

NOTE No 1.—The revised figures for 1872 not being reliable, the uncorrected figures shown in the Census Report of 1872 have been adopted in this statement.
NOTE No. 2.—The figures of 1881 have been taken because corrected figures of sex details according to *thanas* are not available; the difference between the total shown in the report for 1881 and the corrected total of that year shown in the report for 1891 is only 3,345 for the district.

62. Beyond the relatively greater increase of Muhammadans than Hindus, which has been noticed above, and which is very marked, there is not much change to notice.

63. The large colonies of Native Christians in Nawabganj and Rupganj hold their own and continue to increase. This increase is due to natural causes and not to conversion of Hindus or Muhammadans, which is almost unknown. It is noticeable, on the other hand, that these Christians show no tendency to revert to other religions.

64. As regards distribution, the Muhammadans are largely in excess of the Hindus in Rupganj, Raipura, and Manikganj. In Srinagar *thana* the Hindus outnumber the Muhammadans. In the Munshiganj *thana* Muhammadans predominate. The Ferajis, followers of Dadu Miah, are particularly strong on the *char* lands. These people are very ignorant and bigotted, and are a turbulent class, owing greatly to constant quarrels, which arise for the possession of the *char* lands.

HEAD V.—INFIRMITIES.

65. The statistics regarding persons inflicted with infirmities are given in the statement below—

Infirmities.

Division.	District.	Population. Males. 1872.	Males. 1881.	Males. 1891.	Females. 1872.	Females. 1881.	Females. 1891.	Total. 1872.	Total. 1881.	Total. 1891.	Insanes. Males. 1872.	Males. 1881.	Males. 1891.	Females. 1872.	Females. 1881.	Females. 1891.	Total. 1872.	Total. 1881.	Total. 1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Dacca ...	Dacca ...	905,775	1,033,863	1,200,583	947,218	1,082,487	1,220,073	1,852,993	2,116,350	2,420,656	769	831	956	250	600	577	1,019	1,431	1,533

Division.	District.	Deaf and Dumb. Males. 1872.	Males. 1881.	Males. 1891.	Females. 1872.	Females. 1881.	Females. 1891.	Total. 1872.	Total. 1881.	Total. 1891.	Blind. Males. 1872.	Males. 1881.	Males. 1891.	Females. 1872.	Females. 1881.	Females. 1891.	Total. 1872.	Total. 1881.	Total. 1891.
1	2	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Dacca ...	Dacca ...	528	1,040	436	235	786	281	763	1,826	717	1,129	1,223	876	556	1,091	638	1,685	2,314	1,514

Division.	District.	Lepers. Males. 1872.	Males. 1881.	Males. 1891.	Females. 1872.	Females. 1881.	Females. 1891.	Total. 1872.	Total. 1881.	Total. 1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
...ecca ...	Dacca ...	722	864	692	129	340	177	852	1,204	859

Percentages calculated on preceding columns. Insanes. Insanes male, on total male population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Insanes female, total females on population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Insanes on total population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
·084	·085	·079	·026	·055	·047	·054	·069	·063

Deaf and Dumb. Deaf and Dumb males, on total male population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Deaf and Dumb females, on female population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Deaf and Dumb on total population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
·0553	·101	·036	·0248	·072	·023	·0412	·806	·029

Blind. Blind males on male population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Blind females on total female population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Blind on total population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.
30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
·1246	·118	·072	·0587	·1007	·052	·0909	·169	·062

Lepers. Leper males, on total male population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Leper females, on total female population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.	Lepers on total population of the district. 1872.	1881.	1891.
39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
·0796	·063	·056	·013	·030	·014	·0460	·058	·035

NOTE—No. 1.—The revised figures for 1872 not being reliable, the uncorrected figures shown in the Census Report of 1872 have been adopted in this statement.
NOTE—No. 2—The figures of 1881 have been taken, because corrected figures of sex details according to *thanas* are not available; the difference between the total shown in the report for 1881 and the corrected total of that year shown in the report for 1891 is ...ly 3,345 for the district.

The Census Superintendent's instructions for filling up column 14 of the schedule were that, "if any person be blind of both eyes, or deaf and dumb, from birth, or insane or suffering from corrosive leprosy, enter the name of infirmity in this column." These instructions were fully explained and acted on by the enumerators. The names of such persons who were blind of one eye only, or who became deaf and dumb after birth, or who were suffering from white leprosy only, were not entered. Such persons only who were of unsound mind and were of violent disposition were enumerated as insane.

66. All sorts of skin diseases attended with sores are looked upon as leprosy, which is regarded as a divine visitation by the Hindus. Leprosy is mostly confined to low class Muhammadans and semi-Hinduized aboriginal classes, who eat unwholesome meat. The popular Hindu belief ascribes the eating of beef as the cause of leprosy. Some slight increase is shown in the number of insanes, but deaf and dumb show a marked falling off, probably due to the restriction that only those who have been deaf and dumb from birth are so shown. The blind also are fewer, probably owing to the exclusion of those blind in one eye only. Lepers are in excess of the Census of 1872, but less than 1881, probably owing to the exclusion of all forms of leprosy but corrosive leprosy.

Head VI.—Education.

67. I submit the subjoined statement showing the number of English and Vernacular schools and of their pupils at the three Census periods.

Class of Schools.	Number of schools.			Pupils.			Learning English.			Learning other languages.			Percentage of pupils to total population.			Percentage of pupils learning English to total population.		
	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
High English ...	9	8	19	1,972	2,140	5,002	1,808	2,042	4,850	74	98	152	...	...	...	...	...	...
Middle English ...	20	38	44	1,293	3,312	3,659	567	1,459	2,076	726	1,853	1,583	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. Vernacular ...	96	93	117	4,555	4,804	5,818	65	207	375	4,490	4,597	5,243	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lower do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Primary Education...	332	683	1,607	10,196	18,283	37,147	...	...	26	10,196	18,283	37,121	...	...	...	...	...	...
Special or Technical training ...	...	4	8	...	504	1,085	...	...	214	...	990	871	...	...	...	...	...	...
Private Institutions	...	78	3,372	...	625	27,351	...	...	58	...	...	27,293	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	457	904	5,167	18,016	29,668	80,062	2,530	3,708	7,799	15,486	25,827	72,263	·99	1·39	3·3	·13	·17	·32

The Inspector of Schools reports that intermediate yearly variations are due principally (specially in regard to primary schools) to different systems of classifications of schools, and to such extraordinary occurrences, as excessive floods, scarcity, and so forth.

68. In regard to the spread of education in different parts of the district, in relation to character and religion of population and predominant castes, it appears that the education impart edin our schools and colleges was first sought after with eagerness by the literate or *kalampesha* classes, consisting of the higher caste Brahmans, Baidyas, and Kayasthas, among the Hindus, and by a small number of families of respectable and high social position among the Muhammadans. The number of pupils sent to our schools by the latter is very small as compared with those sent by the former. Gradually, however, the lower castes among the Hindus and other Muhammadans began to come in larger numbers to our schools, at first to those of the lower descriptions, and afterwards to English schools and colleges. At present the great majority of the pupils in the colleges and high English schools belong to the higher castes; while in middle class and primary schools the number of pupils belonging to the lower castes and to the cultivating classes among the Muhammadans largely predominates. The proportion of Muhammadans to Hindu pupils has been steadily rising since some years past, as the *kalampesha* or higher castes sections of the community resort to schools of higher descriptions. These schools exist in large numbers in Bikrampur in parts of the Manikganj subdivision, and in the *pargana* of Sonargong and Maheswardi, within the Narayanganj subdivision. In other parts of the district the higher classes of schools are rare, as the example of the higher castes has a powerful effect in inducing the lower sections of the population to send their children to schools. The number of pupils sent to schools from the aboriginal classes is so very small that any comment is hardly needed.

Head VII.—Languages.

69. The spoken language of the district is Bengali, except in the case of a very small number of Muhammadan families in the town of Dacca. Bengali is the only vernacular language therefore that is taught in our schools. The exceptions are some among the Muhammadan students of high English schools, where *maulvis* are employed, who take up Urdu or Persian as their second language for the Entrance examination, and the very young Muhammadan boys who learn parts of the Koran and the ritual of the Muhammadan religion in the Koran schools or *Maktabs*.

HEAD VIII.—CASTES.*

70. The subjoined statement will show the principal castes of the district as censused in 1891.

CASTES.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindu Castes.			
1. Brahman ...	28,294	31,973	60,267
2. Baidya ...	4,635	5,815	10,450
3. Kayastha ...	42,607	46,980	89,587
4. Barui ...	9,313	9,655	18,968
5. Teli ...	9,014	10,093	19,107
6. Sadgop ...	327	321	648
7. Tanti ...	7,362	5,645	13,007
8. Mali ...	1,236	1,251	2,487
9. Napit ...	11,146	11,300	22,446
10. Moyra ...	1,738	1,232	2,970
11. Kumhar ...	9,825	9,628	19,453
12. Kamar ...	6,824	7,698	14,522
13. Gandha Banik or Bania.	2,511	3,107	5,618
14. Kansari ...	12	1	13
15. Sankhari ...	1,431	1,482	2,913
16. Tambuli ...	198	129	327
17. Patyal ...	575	689	1,264
18. Bhat ...	12	9	21
19. Goala ...	15,181	14,985	30,166
20. Subarna Banik ...	1,892	2,160	4,052
21. Sunri (Saha) ...	28,788	31,749	60,537
22. Kaibartta ...	25,677	27,012	52,689
23. Su[illegible]dhar ...	8,588	8,688	17,276
24. N[illegible] ...	384	376	760
25. Patni ...	2,739	2,557	5,296
26. Kapali ...	10,634	10,664	21,298
27. Bakali ...	21	22	43
28. Kacharu ...	330	365	695
29 Baiti ...	241	240	481
30 Kawali ...	456	66	522
31. Karni ...	120	119	239
32. Kahar or Bearer...	2,919	1,138	4,057
33. Jaliya	29,303	29,636	58,939
34. Malo	555	432	987
35. Tiyar	1,893	1,396	3,289
36. Bhuimali ...	6,664	6,599	13,263
37. Chandal	112,774	117,645	230,419
38. Jugi	9,106	9,266	18,372
39. Bagdi	743	642	1,385
40. Hari	176	158	334
41. Bauri	159	95	254
42. Chamar and Muchi	26,918	28,521	55,439
43. Pasi ...	116	45	161
Aboriginal Castes.			
1. Bunas or Banuas	680	764	1,444
2. Dhangar ...	1	...	1
3. Dhanuk ...	68	1	69
4. Munda ...	47	21	68
5. Tippera ...	213	217	430
6. Kochh ...	5,478	5,096	10,574
7. Rajbansi ...	555	446	1,001
8. Kewat ...	110	40	150
9. Kichak ...	40	32	72
10. Bind ...	593	39	632

CASTES.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Up-country Castes.			
1. Babhan ...	20	3	23
2. Gangota ...	12	...	12
3. Chhatti ...	736	143	879
4. Rajput and Kshatriya.	3,021	2,601	5,622
5. Bhar ...	313	140	453
6. Agarwala ...	6	...	6
7. Kurmi ...	2,085	617	2,702
8. Bhuiya ...	85	78	163
9. Khandu ...	1,120	613	1,733
10. Koiri ...	381	56	437
11. Gareri ...	29	21	50
12. Gandharp ...	1	...	1
13. Kalwar ...	53	2	55
14. Nunia ...	1,188	347	1,535
15. Duria ...	6	...	6
16. Dosadh ...	399	107	506
17. Aguri ...	1	2	3
18. Bhumij ...	39	41	80
19. Dom ...	155	103	258
20. Gonrhi ...	57	2	59
21. Halwai ...	660	289	949
No Caste.			
1. Bairagi ...	3,221	5,751	8,972
Mussalman Castes.			
1. Sayyed ...	10,722	10,953	21,675
2. Mughul ...	235	206	441
3. Shaikh ...	709,018	712,076	1,421,094
4. Pathan ...	5,195	6,648	11,843
5. Mullah ...	110	88	198
6. Khankar ...	50	52	102
7. Patua ...	19	25	44
8. Beldar ...	93	80	173
9. Hajjam ...	106	133	239
10. Jolaha ...	4,792	4,944	9,736
11. Mahifarash ...	203	230	433
12. Dai ...	991	932	1,923
13. Badyakar ...	182	187	369
14. Nagarchi ...	87	96	183
15. Nikari ...	57	53	110

71. *Brahmans.*—They form the highest caste in the social scale, and are now largely employed as ministerial officers, clerks, &c., in our courts. Some of them hold high judicial or

* *Vide* letter No. $\frac{2717}{XXIV}$, dated 23rd December 1892, from T. L. Jenkins, Esq., Collector of Dacca.

executive functions under the Government. As a rule, they never follow, owing to social restrictons, either agricultural or any other profession requiring manual labour. Adoption of any menial or degraded profession for livelihood means loss of caste for them. They therefore mostly take to the learned profession, and perform for other castes all religious rites to which they alone are entitled to the exclusion of others.

As it is not the province of this report to trace the history of the entire Brahmanic population in Bengal in the social and ethnological aspects, I shall, so far as practicable, confine my remarks strictly to those that are found in this division. The origin of the Brahmanic population in Bengal, how they at first came to dwell there, how they came to be subsequently divided and subdivided, and the traditional history connected with the system, are fully discussed in Dr. Wise's history of Dacca, and Mr Risley's ethnological collection. Of the main five sub-castes, viz., (1) Rarhi, (2) Barendra, (3) Vaidik, (4) Saptasati, and (5) Madhyasreni, into which the entire Brahmanic population of Bengal came to be subdivided, most of those that now dwell in this division belong to sub-castes (2), (3), and (4). The rest, who belong to the other sub-castes, form a very insignificant minority, and most of these again are not permanent inhabitants of the district.

From the statistics collected, it is not possible to estimate the numerical strength of each of the foregoing sub-castes. Sub-caste (1) is classified into three main groups, viz., (*i*) Kulins, (*ii*) Sudhasrotriyas and (*iii*) Kashtasrotriyas, of which by far the largest number belongs to the last group. The Kulins are addicted to both endogamy and polygamy, but with the advancement of English education, and certain social reforms undertaken by some of its educated members, both endogamy and polygamy have fallen into disrepute, and are gradually dying out. It may be here conveniently noted that one Rash Behary Mukherjee, himself a high Kulin, has largely contributed to this happy result. The last two groups mentioned above are generally neither endogamous nor polygamous. Although polygamists to a certain extent exist among them, the instances are so rare as to require no notice.

72. *Vaidik.*—The origin and history of this class in Bengal have been amply discussed by Dr. Wise and Mr. Risley in their ethnological researches. Their social status and customs in this district remain to the present day very much the same as they were described by the gentlemen named above. Neither endogamy nor polygamy exists among them. Their numerical strength in this district cannot be determined, but it can be safely asserted that they are much less numerous than those belonging to the Barendra class.

73. *Saptasati.*—Although their number cannot be exactly determined, it is certain they are very numerous in this district. They occupy the lowest rank according to social precedence amongst the Brahmans, but they can still marry among the higher classes of the caste. In social precedence the Brahmans head the list. Their number was 51,632 in 1872, 60,542 in 1881, and 60,267 in 1891. The increase since 1881 is very small in comparison to the increase in the decennial period between 1872 and 1881. It may be attributed to three reasons, (1) that polygamy among this class of people is no longer encouraged as was the case some years before; (2) that the Census of 1872 was not as accurate as those of 1881 and 1891; and (3) that the *Ardhodoy Gangasnan* having taken place shortly before the Census, many persons did not return to their homes at the Census time.

The principal occupation of the Brahmans is priesthood, but this being not so lucrative as before in consequence of the spread of western civilization, many of them attend the English schools and colleges, and are employed in services like members of the other castes. The Brahmans are generally *talukdars* and *Brahmottar bhogis*, very few of them being *zamindars*. They have also occupancy rights in cultivated lands, which they let in *barga*. Brahmans do not plough the lands or do any menial work from fear of loss of caste.

74. The *Baidyas* stand next to the Brahmans in social precedence. No comparative statement can be shown of this caste, as the Census Report of 1881 does not give any figures, the number in the whole province being less than 100,000. The present Census shows them to be 10,450 in this district. In 1872 they were 8,420. There are a few *zamindars* in this class also. They are chiefly tenure-holders, although many earn their livelihood by service only. The chief profession of this caste was *Kabiraji* or medical treatment, but as this system is not much appreciated, the number of this class has been much reduced.

75. *Navasakhs.*—Next to the Kayasthas come the Navasakhs or the following nine castes:—(1) Barui, (2) Tanti, (3) Teli, (4) Mali, (5) Napit, (6) Sadgop, (7) Modak, (8) Kamar, (9) Kumhar; and the Banias from whom the Brahmans receive water, subdivided into—(1) Gandha Banik, (2) Kansya Banik or Kansaris, (3) Sankha Banik or Sankharis.

In fact, next to the Kayasthas, all other *jalacharania* castes, that is, whose water the pure Brahmans and Baidyas drink without losing caste, are ranked equal in society. They are respected more or less only in proportion to their wealth.

76. *Baruis* are the *pan*-growers. Many of them having been educated have entered into (1) Government service, (2) into employment under private *zamindars*, and (3) into practice as native physicians. Their number was 15,931 in 1872, 17,524 in 1881, and 18,968 in 1891. The females of the *Baruis* assist them in arranging *pan* for sale. Baruis are generally occupancy and non-occupancy *raiyats*, but with their gradual advance in importance some of them have become *talukdars*.

77. *Telis* were dealers in oil, but now their profession is dealing in miscellaneous goods. They come next to the Sunris in point of wealth. The rich *Telis* deal on a large or small scale in any article they think profitable, the poorest being the village *Mudis*. The number of Telis was 13,150 in 1872, 15,966 in 1881, and 19,107 in 1891. They are generally occupancy-*raiyats*, some being *talukdars* and a few *zamindars*.

78. *Goalas* or *Sadgops*.—The principal occupation of this caste is dealing in milk. Their number was 1,085 in 1872, 2,381, in 1881, and 1,587 in 1891. The decrease is probably owing to the *Goalas* being now recognized as Sudras. *Goalas* are generally occupancy *raiyats*. Very few of them are *talukdars*. The females of the *Goalas* help them in preparing curdled and thick or condensed milk (দধি এবং ক্ষীর).

79. *Tantis* or weavers were prosperous in this district during the Muhammadan era, when muslins of Dacca were used by the Mughals. With the decadence of the Mughal power, the trade in muslin has fallen off, and the Tantis follow other professions. Some of these in the town have entered Government service. Those who cannot afford to give education to their children follow their caste profession of weaving, but as European cloths are obtained at cheaper rate, the manufacture of country cloths has declined, and consequently the majority of the caste has become poor. Very few of them are *zamindars*, being generally occupancy *raiyats* and tenure-holders. Their number was 8,906 in 1872, 10,587 in 1881, and 13,007 in 1891. The females of the *Tantis* help them in arranging and twisting threads and also in weaving.

80. *Malakars* or *Malis* supply garlands, &c., of *sola* during such ceremonies as marriage, *annaprasan*, and the like. They are generally occupancy *raiyats* Their number was 2,757 in 1872, 6,492 in 1881, and 2,487 in 1891. The decrease is due to many having themselves censused as Kayasthas.

81. *Napits* or barbers follow their profession and do not require any special notice. Their number was 18,208 in 1872, 21,905 in 1881, and 22,446 in 1891.

82. *Mayara* or *Modak* are confectioners. They are generally occupancy-*raiyats*, very few being *talukdars*. Their number was 2,112 in 1872, 2,075 in 1881, and 2,970 in 1891.

83. *Kumhars* are potters. They manufacture and sell potteries and earthen idols and toys. They are generally occupancy-*raiyats*. Their number was 14,835 in 1872, 17,015 in 1881, and 19,453 in 1891.

84. *Kamars* are both gold and silversmiths. They are generally occupancy *raiyats*. Their number was 12,072 in 1872, 16,747 in 1881, and 14,522 in 1891. The decrease is probably due to some having censused themselves as Kayasthas.

85. *Gandha Baniks* are *Banias* or dealers in spices, drugs, &c. They also are generally occupancy-*raiyats* and very few *talukdars*. Their number was 6,634 in 1872, in 1881 *Banias* were numbered 14,971 (very probably this figure includes Subarna as well as *Gandha Baniks*), in 1891 their number is 5,618.

86. *Kansaris* prepare and sell brass, bronze, and copper utensils. They are also generally occupancy *raiyats*. They are very few in number.

87. *Sankharis* or shell-cutters, and *Patials* or mat-makers are very few in number. Very few of these are educated and enter Government and private services. The *Sankharis* of this town are for the most part well off. These castes are generally occupancy *raiyats*, but none of the castes described above cultivate the land with their own hands. They generally let out the lands in *barga*, or keep servants of lower castes or Mussalmans, who till the lands.

88. Among the lower castes *Subarna Baniks* head the list. Their number is very small. It was 4,696 in 1872 and 4,052 in 1891. Formerly, almost all the clerks in local Government offices were Subarna Baniks. At present also many of them hold employment in Government and mercantile offices. The rest are bankers or traders in miscellaneous and fancy articles. In the mufassal the Subarna Baniks are generally goldsmiths. They are mostly occupancy-*raiyats* and very few *zamindars* or *talukdars*. Subarna Baniks identify themselves as Vaisyas. The reason, as far as I have been able to ascertain, is that, like other low-caste Hindus, they want to take such a nomenclature as will enable them to mix with higher class Hindus hereafter, who will not take water from them.

89. *Sunris* are generally rich, being a trading class. Those who have amassed much wealth have purchased *zamindars*. The *Shahas* are now ashamed to be called *Suris*, as the word *suri* means liquor-dealer. Their number was 63,511 in 1872, 57,917 in 1881, and 60,537 in 1891.

90. *Kaibarttas* have two great divisions, Chasa and Jalia. The Chasa Kaibarttas are better in social position than the Jalias who catch and sell fish. Among the Jalia Kaibarttas, those who are wealthy enough to give up their fish trade have turned Chasa Kaibarttas. These men now identify themselves as Kaibarttas and the fishing division as Jhalo, Malo. Tiyar, &c. The Kaibarttas are generally occupancy *raiyats*. Some of them are also *zamindars* and *talukdars*. Their number was 32,317 in 1872, 40,422 in 1881, and 52,689 in 1891.

91. *Sutradhars* or *Chhutars* are carpenters. They are generally occupancy *raiyats*. Their number was 15,907 in 1872 and 17,276 in 1891. No figures can be given for 1881, as they are not found in the report for that year, probably the number in the whole province having been less than 100,000.

92. The number of *Nats* or musicians, *Patnis* or ferrymen is very few, and therefore not compared here.

93. The *Kapalis* are weavers. They are also a trading caste. The Kapalis in the Manikganj subdivision generally tap date trees and prepare and sell *gur*. These persons are generally occupancy and non-occupancy-*raiyats*. The women help them in weaving gunny and preparing *gur*. Their number was 17,017 in 1872, 18,588 in 1881, and 21,298 in 1891.

94. *Bakalis* or traders in miscellaneous goods, *Kacharies* or preparers and sellers of lac-bracelets and *churies*, and *Bautis* or preparers and sellers of lime, are very few in number. As they are traders, they consider themselves to be better in social position than the Chandals

or Nama Sudras, who are generally cultivators and do manual labour. They are occupancy and non-occupancy-*raiyats*.

95. *Jalias* have three divisions:—The *Jhalo*, *Malo* and *Tiyar*. The number of the *Jhalos* (who are generally called *Jaliyas*) in 1872 was 32,269, in 1881, 39,274, and in 1891, 58,939. These men are generally occupancy and non-occupancy-*raiyats*.

96. *Bhuimalis* or sweepers and *Hari*, *Bagdi*, *Bauri* are settlers from Western Bengal and very few in number. Both the males and the females of the *Haris*, *Bagdis*, and *Bauris* work as coolies. These castes immigrated from Raniganj during the time when indigo plantation was carried on in this district.

97. *Chandals* are generally cultivators. They are occupancy or non-occupancy-*raiyats* and field labourers. Many of them are now working as carpenters and boatmen. Their number was 191,162 in 1872, 202,510 in 1881, and 230,419 in 1891. They wish to rise in the social scale, and hence style themselves *Nama Sudras*.

98. *Jugis* are weavers like the *Tantis*, but the high-caste Hindus will not take water from their hands. With the introduction of European merchandise, their trade has fallen off as they cannot compete with the European machinery. The females help them in preparing threads, &c. They are occupancy and non-occupancy *raiyats*. Their number in 1872 was 16,410, in 1881, 17,080, and in 1891, 18,372.

99. *Chamars and Muchis*.—The *Muchis* belong to this district, but the *Chamars* are up-country men. As they were dealt with together in the Census Report of 1872 and 1881, they are compared together. Their profession is one and the same. The number was 24,063 in 1872, 24,988 in 1881, and 55,439 in 1891. They are occupancy and non-occupancy *raiyats*. The females help them in tanning hides.

100. About up-country castes I have nothing particular to say. Their social precedence I think will be better discussed by the authorities of Bihar.

101. Among the aborigines, the *Kochh* and *Rajbansis* are found in large numbers in the northern part of this district. Hajo founded the Kochh kingdom in the 15th century. His grandson Biswa Singh became a Hindu with all his race. On this occasion the country was re-named Bihar and the people *Rajbansi*, so that none but the low and the mean of this race retained the name of Kochh. Now these Kochhs also claim to be *Rajbansis*. The number of the Kochhs was 10,928 in 1872, 13,498 in 1881, and 10,574 in 1891.

102. As regards the Muhammadan population and other religious sects, I have nothing more to add to what has been stated under Head I.

Head IX.—Occupation.

103. From the gross figures entered against each class of occupation-holders, it is quite impossible to eliminate and deduct separate figures representing the numbers of women and youths. This would require a fresh census. The figures therefore are given according to the Occupation table prepared by the Census Superintendent. The subjoined statement satisfies the requirements of Head IX of the Government Circular No. 6T.F., dated 3rd October 1891.

104. *Head A.—Agriculture.*

Of the Agricultural group, the land-owning section is comprised of the members of the higher castes, and occasionally of those of the lower castes, who are acquiring wealth and influence by service, trade, or manufacture.

The tilling section is almost wholly recruited from the Muhammadans and Chandals, Muchis, Kochhs, &c.

Total population under head Agriculture	1,431,043
Land occupants not cultivating, including *zamindars* and tenure-holders	39,206
Land occupants cultivating, including occupancy and non-occupancy *raiyats* ...	2,328
Agricultural labourers ...	30,606

The balance, 1,358,903, includes lessees of villages, tenants not cultivating, tenants and sharers cultivating. The cultivating tenants of all grades in this district are helped by their females in regard to minor and inferior details of agricultural work, such as storing, threshing, and husking, &c.

105. *Head B.—Professional.*

All professions pertaining to the cultivation or dissemination of religion or non-secular learning are generally the exclusive prerogative of the Brahmans, though occasionally the Baidyas, making themselves honoured by their devotion and sacrifice, sometimes adopt the priestly or ministerial occupation.

1. Priests, ministers, catechists, exorcists, mendicants, circumcisers, &c., &c., &c.	32,077
2. Educational officers ...	5,627
3. Literature	4,817
4. Law	5,729
5. Medicine	11,819
6. Engineering and surveying ...	1,234

Head B.—Professional—concluded.

Brahmans, Baidyas, and Kayasthas generally make up the largest number in educational service, literature, law, medicine, and engineering, though sometimes Baruis, Shahas, Telis, Tantis, &c., figure under these heads. Almanac-makers and sellers are largely taken from those whose occupation is astrology.

Pictorial art and sculpture are mainly the occupation of the Ganaks and Kumars.

Music, art, and dancing are generally the occupation of the Nats, and also of the Muchis to a certain extent.

7. Almanac-makers and sellers ...	29
8. Pictorial art and sculpture ...	498
9. Music, acting, and dancing ...	11,936

106. *Head C.—Commercial.*

These occupations are generally the caste occupations of the Shahas, Telis, and Banias.

1. Dealers in money and securities	18,143
2. General merchandise ...	18,354
3. Unspecified dealing, *i.e.*, shopkeepers, pedlars, hawkers, salesmen, shopkeepers' servants, &c., &c., &c. ...	12,629
4. Brokers	800
5. Contractors and farmers ...	2,254

107. *Head D.—Artisans.*

(1)—Workers in fabrics and dress stuffs.

(*a*) and (*b*) are hardly to be seen in this district, though in Dacca, Tantis, Sankharis, Jugis, and Muhammadan females sometimes manufacture the well-known Kashida stuff.

Tantis and Muhammadans generally manufacture all kinds of cotton stuff.

Jute, flax, and coir dealers and weavers are generally Kapalis, Muhammadans, &c.

Dressmakers are generally Muhammadans, though high class Hindus have now taken on a large scale to tailoring business conducted by means of machines.

(*a*) Shawl weavers and sellers, woollen cloth manufacturers, and dealers	558
(*b*) Silk carders and spinners, silk weavers and dealers	56
(*c*) Cotton dealers and cotton weavers, &c., &c.	53,928
(*d*) Jute, flax, and coir dealers and weavers	14,328
(*e*) Dressmakers, &c. ...	26,400

(2)—Workers in food and drink.

(*a*) Goalas.
(*b*) Goalas.
(*c*) Muhammadans. Some Hindus have also lately taken to meat-selling by killing goats before an earth image of *Kali*, which is evidently an attempt to compromise orthodoxy with their unfamiliar and untrodden mode of earning livelihood.
(*d*) Muhammadans.
(*e*) Jalias.
(*f*) Jalias and Nikaris who are Muhammadans.
(*g*) Shahas and Muhammadans largely.
(*h*) Chandals and Shikaries.
(*i*) Muhammaadns and Khottas.
(*j*) Muhammadans and Sudras.
(*k*) Muhammadans and Khottas.
(*l*) Muhammadans, Sudras, Telis, and Shahas.
(*m*) Kuris and Mayaras.
(*n*) Muhammadans.
(*o*) Muhammadans.
(*p*) Suris.
(*q*) Pashis.
(*r*) Suris.
(*s*) Muhammadans.
(*t*) Shahas, Muhammadans, and Kapalis.
(*u*) Shahas, Muhammadans, and Kapalis.
(*v*) Shahas and Telis.

(*a*) Milk and butter sellers ...	24,674
(*b*) Ghee-makers and sellers ...	212
(*c*) Butchers	215
(*d*) Fowl and egg sellers ...	162
(*e*) Fishermen	75,142
(*f*) Fish dealers	4,650
(*g*) Grain dealers	28,927
(*h*) Grain parchers	3,371
(*i*) Pulse and flour preparers and dealers	2,220
(*j*) Bakers	495
(*k*) Bran sellers	28
(*l*) Vegetable and fruit sellers ...	869
(*m*) Confectioners, &c. ...	1,250
(*n*) Soda water manufacturers ...	8
(*o*) *Sherbut* preparers and sellers	21
(*p*) Country spirit distillers and sellers	245
(*q*) Toddy drawers and sellers ...	665
(*r*) Foreign wine and spirit dealers	70
(*s*) Tea sellers	6
(*t*) Sugar manufacturers and sellers	1,307
(*u*) Molasses makers and sellers	3,641
(*v*) Salt sellers	1,948

Head D.—Artisans—concluded.

(*w*) Shahas, Telis, Bakalis, and Mudis.	(*w*) Grocer and general condiment dealers	12,628
(*x*) Baruis.	(*x*) Betel-leaf sellers ...	17,242
(*y*) Muhammadans, Shahas, Telis.	(*y*) Tobacco sellers	4,161
(*z*) Muhammadans and Suris.	(*z*) Opium sellers	37
(*a1*) Suris, Muhammadans.	(*a1*) *Bhang* and *ganja* sellers ...	291

(3)—Workers in animal substances.

(*a*) Muchis and Muhammadans.	(*a*) Tanners, curriers, and hide-sellers	2,511
(*b*) Muchis and Muhammadans.	(*b*) Shoe-makers, book-binders and sellers	4,428
(*c*) Muhammadans.	(*c*) Hide, horns and bone dealers	13,293

(4)—Workers in vegetable substances.

(*a*) Doms.	(*a*) Bamboo and rattan splitters, workers, and sellers	1,425
(*b*) Doms and Muchis.	(*b*) Basket weavers, &c. ...	1,728
(*c*) Paitals.	(*c*) Mat-makers and sellers ...	4,382
(*d*) Muhammadans and Muchis.	(*d*) *Chik*-makers	3
(*e*) Muhammadans.	(*e*) Leaf plate-makers ...	115
(*f*) Muhammadans.	(*f*) Leaf fan-makers ...	194
(*g*) Muhammadans.	(*g*) Brush and comb-makers and sellers	850
(*h*) Bhuimalis, Muhammadans, and Muchis.	(*h*) Broom-makers and sellers ...	370
(*i*) Banias.	(*i*) Pith and bark collectors and sellers	1,185

(5)—Workers in mineral substances.

(*a*) Goldsmiths (Kamars), Shahas, and Poddars.	(*a*) Gold and silver dealers ...	675
(*b*) Kamars and Shahas.	(*b*) Gold and silver assayers and workers	17,154
(*c*) Muhammadans.	(*c*) Goldsmiths' dust washers ...	561
(*d*) High class and low class Hindus.	(*d*) Electro-platers	33
(*e*) Kansharis.	(*e*) Brass, copper, and bell-metal dealers and workers	6,672
(*f*) Low Kayasthas and Sudras.	(*f*) Zinc, mercury, and lead dealers and workers	993
(*g*) Lohar-Kamars.	(*g*) Iron and steel dealers and workers	5,052

108. *Head E.—Pastoral Groups.*

(*a*) Muhammadans.	(*a*) Stock breeding and dealing ...	5,263
(*b*) Muhammadans.	(*b*) Elephant-catchers ...	5
(*c*) Muhammadans.	(*c*) Ass and mule breeders and dealers	77
(*d*) Muhammadans.	(*d*) Sheep and goat breeders and dealers	269
(*e*) Bhuimalis, Doms, and Muchis.	(*e*) Pig breeders and dealers ...	8

109. *Head F.—Hunting and Fishing Groups.*

1. These are Muhammadans and Bedias. There is a separate class of men whose caste is what is called Shikari.	1. Shikaris, falconers, and bird-catchers	33
2. These are Jalias.	2. Fishermen and fish curers ...	75,142

110. *Head G.—Serving Groups including village menials.*

1. Barbers	16,466
2. Washermen	9,098
3. Water-carriers	893
4 Cooks	2,702
5 Indoor servants ...	12,230
6. Grooms, coachmen ...	938
7. Door-keepers	726
8. Miscellaneous	24,308

Water-carriers are generally Goalas and Mussalmans.

Actors and mimics.

Buffoons	32

Astrologers.

Conjurors and fortune-tellers ... 135

Dancers and Singers, Devotees, Genealogists, and Bards.

Story and ballad reciters ... 102

Jugglers, snake-charmers, and animal exhibitors.

Exhibitors of trained animals ... 448

HEAD X.—ADMINISTRATIVE.

111. As soon as instructions were received to correct Registers A and B, I obtained from Calcutta copies of the one-inch to the one-mile survey maps. These maps show the boundaries of the Boundary Commissioner's *mauzas*, and I had the serial numbers of the *mauzas* in the Boundary Commissioner's *thana* lists, which is also the serial number in Register A, posted in the maps in their proper places. In most cases the name of the *mauza* is shown in the map, but these names frequently overstep the limits of the block representing the *mauza* and again, it is often very difficult to find any given *mauza* in the map. The serial numbers can, however, usually be easily written within the block representing the *mauza*; and as it is found that the contiguous numbers are close to each other on the map, *i.e.*, that the serial numbering has followed as far as possible the order of the *mauzas* in the field, with the aid of this numbering any *mauza* can be readily found without difficulty.

112. These maps I found of immense assistance to me, and they enabled me to emphasize and enforce the distinction between the Boundary Commissioner's *mauza* (village it is called in his printed lists) and the census village or *gaon*, which so many officers seemed to find a great difficulty in grasping. They also enabled me to fix with close accuracy and facility the position of every Census village, and this has been, and in future will be, of great use in many ways. In some cases the one-inch scale map was found too small for certain subcharges, and tracings were then taken from the four-inch to the one-mile scale map in the Collector's office.

113. The *thanas* were found too large for one man to administer directly, and they were accordingly divided into sub-charges. The subdivisional officers were in general charge in the mufassal subdivisions, and performed the duties of *thana* charge Superintendents. In the Sadar subdivision a separate gazetted officer of the district staff was put in charge of each *thana*. The two towns of Dacca and Narayanganj were under the charge of their respective Municipal Commissioners. The real duties of charge Superintendent fell upon the sub-charge Superintendents. Of these sub-charge Superintendents, there were 8 in the two towns, and 45 in the rural areas. The latter were selected, 8 from the Rural Sub-Registrars, 2 Honorary Magistrates, 2 excise Officers, 5 Education Sub-Inspectors, 6 non-official gentlemen, who consented to assist, 2 tahsildars of *khas mahals*, 1 Manager, Court of Wards, 18 Police officers, one of whom only acted for part of the time, and 1 Sub-Deputy Magistrate. The former were leading gentlemen in the town of Dacca. The sub-charges in the rural areas were fixed with reference principally to the convenience of the officers available as Superintendents, and with due regard to securing clearly distinguishable boundaries and areas of suitable size. Each sub-charge Superintendent was furnished with a copy of the map of his sub-charge, numbered in the way described above. He was also given an extract from Register A of all *mauzas* which fell within his sub-charge. Here again, the maps were found of great use in fixing exactly the local areas under each officer, and in preventing any over-lapping or confusion.

114. Upon the sub-charge Superintendent fell primarily the duty of correcting Registers A and B for the area under him, and for this he had to visit every *mauza* and block, and see what villages fell within it. He had also to select the supervisors and enumerators. As an additional precaution, the police were directed to submit complete lists of villages, and the *chaukidari* lists were examined and compared, and discrepancies explained. I am satisfied that no village was omitted. I am of opinion that this part of the work might have been begun even earlier: in fact in the cold weather of 1889-90. It involved very heavy work, and if more time had been available, the strain on the establishments, which had to supply the officers for this work, would have been less. In these days of overworked establishments, this is an important consideration. This work is not work which would have to be done again after an interval of one year only. Some slight changes there would no doubt be, owing to diluvion and alluvion in parts of the district, and some supervisors and enumerators would have to be changed. But otherwise there would be no very material changes.

115. With the numbering of the houses and preparation of the block lists, the work of the supervisors and enumerators began. In this district I called for information as to the anticipated population in each house from the enumerators when submitting their block lists. This was useful in enabling me to determine the minimum requirements of schedules for each block. The figures thus supplied very fairly correspond with the final enumeration. The final counting showed somewhat fewer people than this preliminary counting, owing to a very considerable number of people having gone away to bathe

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Vide letter, No. $\frac{77}{XXIV}$, dated 8th April 1891, from L. Hare, Esq., C.S., Collector of Dacca, to the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal.

in the Ganges and not having returned. If this information could have been supplied sufficiently early, it would have been of great use in enabling an accurate indent of schedule requirements to be prepared in the first instance. As it was, it enabled me to issue books according to actual requirements. In future, I think an effort should be made to obtain this information early. The calculation is then easily made if a fixed margin is allowed over and above the minimum requirements. If the extra names on the last day are to be carried over to new pages, then a margin of pages must be left; but if the proposal to carry on additional names on to any page on which there is spare room be adopted, the margin would be calculated in spare lines only. Another point which the experience of this Census suggests to me is, that single books should, I think, as far as possible, be issued for a single block. This would be an advantage in many respects. To effect this it would probably be best to let the schedules be bound into books in the districts. The work of the Provincial Superintendent would be simpler, as he would know at an early stage the number of blocks, and then the number of wrappers, instructions, and specimen schedules could be calculated easily. Then, if books were bound to meet actual requirements as ascertained by actual counting of population in each block, a rough margin being, as I have said, fixed, the schedule requirements could be sufficiently accurately known at a much earlier stage. The total population figures of the previous Census is a fairly safe guide for the district requirements, but where there can be no saving, in the case of houses having less than the average house population, general averages will be misleading. In this district this year very great disturbances of calculation arose out of the fact that the house being now the mess instead of the *bari*, in many *thanas* the number of houses was increased out of proportion to the increase of population. By the plan proposed of binding in the district, books could be more exactly suited to requirements as finally ascertained, and there would be less waste. If, however, the books are bound at Calcutta, a larger number of classes of books should be provided, viz., books of 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, and 60 schedules. At the subsequent abstracting stage it would save labour in the record-room to have fewer books to deal with. It would be a great gain for the Provincial Superintendent if the accurate requirements of schedules could be ascertained much earlier, and at a future Census it would be well to consider whether this could not be arranged for. A preliminary block counting could probably be in the cold weather before the Census, when, as I have suggested above, the blocking, &c., should be done.

116. There was some delay in getting out the schedules which were asked for in the supplementary indents. But this did not cause any considerable inconvenience. In a large number of cases enumerators prepared a draft enumeration on manuscript schedules prepared by themselves, and copied these on to the books when received. The preparation of these draft schedules enabled the testing of the entries to be made even before the printed schedules were issued in many cases. I did not think it necessary to forbid the preparation of such draft schedules, though I was not prepared to issue any orders for their preparation. The expense of these was borne by the enumerators themselves.

117. I now proceed to note briefly the points suggested by you.

(*a*) There was no further departure from the general instructions than has been indicated above, and the use of numbered maps and the obtaining an estimate of the population in each house, with the block lists, were amplifications rather than departures.

(*b*) In some cases the villages were re-classified and *pára*s were shown as being of the original village instead of as separate villages, and *vice versâ*, but these changes were few.

(*c*) The definition of a house which was finally adopted was not that used in some of the *thanas* of this district at the last Census. At first, too, in several *thanas* the old definition of the house, as the *bari* or enclosure, was adopted in the preliminary proceedings, and the correction of this mistake threw the work back a bit.

(*d*) Calculated by the number of houses they contained, the average size of the subcharge was 8,567 houses.

(*e*) The circle on the average comprised 434 houses.

(*f*) The block contained 37 houses. The average area in square miles is given also calculated on the total area of the district. This, however, does not really give much more information than the statement of the number of men of each class employed, for, as I have said, in marking out the several areas, attention was given to the officer available, the site of his home, and the character of the country, rather than to any abstract idea of the area one man should have charge of. In a future Census, I would be inclined to increase the sub-charges in number, and diminish their area if good Superintendents could be obtained. Ten circles on the average would be sufficient for a sub-charge, and 10 villages for a supervisor. I say 10 villages rather than 10 blocks for a supervisor, because if he is a man of authority and position, it is rather the area he has to travel over than the number of men under him which has to be considered. But in all such matters the very freest hand should be given to the district officer, who will be influenced by all sorts of special circumstances. On the whole it is better to have too many men than too few.

(*g*) The numbering of houses was well and cheaply done. Individually for each enumerator, the cost must have been extremely small. Nothing was paid from my office for this purpose.

(*h*) The permanent numbering of houses is a much more difficult matter. First of all, numbers of a more permanent character would be required. For the Census a wattle or mat wall was often plastered over for a sufficiently large patch with mud, and the number written on this with *gâb* juice. Mud walls were similarly marked. But such walls peel off and have no permanence. Kerosine oil cans are very common now throughout this district, and many houses are roofed with flattened out tins. Probably it would not be impossible to stamp numbers on squares of tin and to have these affixed to a conspicuous part of the house. Still the expense would be something, though it could probably be borne in the first instance by the *chaukidari* union fund, or by the owner of the house. But there is another difficulty owing to constant changes in the situations of the houses themselves. Even in the Census this difficulty showed itself. How are new houses interspersed with old ones to be shown? It is very important to keep the numbering serial. An old house is removed. Is its old number to be shown blank or what is to be done? A new house is built, is it to be given the number next to the last number in the village or a number which will show its position in the village? In this district such new houses were shown with a letter added to the number of the next house. The numbers of old houses removed were not utilized again, but shown as having no house. These are matters of detail no doubt, but it is precisely on details that such a scheme would depend. Provision would have to be made for re-numbering, *i.e.*, re-arranging the numbers at intervals. The Census interval would be best if it were not found too long.

II.—AGENCY.

118. (*a*) Supervisors and enumerators were drawn from all classes. In the far away mufassal, the village headman had to be principally relied on. Often he could not write much himself, but he got help in this respect. Elsewhere abundance of qualified persons were available. Supervisors were *talukdars*, *gomashtas*, schoolmasters, *tahsildars*, *pandits*, *naiks*, *zamindars*, traders, doctors, *amlas*, and enumerators were partly of the same classes, and *punchayats*, *gurus*, students, and *muktears*.

(*b*) The duties were, on the whole, willingly undertaken—generally, I think, under the impression that it was useless to make much objection. The notice that good work gave some claim to consideration in the appointment of abstractors, probably helped to some extent, but as there were over 1,000 applications for 200 appointments, there has been some disappointment in this respect.

(*c*) There were only eight prosecutions in this district—four in Nawabganj *thana*, and three in Kapasia, and one in Sabhar, but even these it was not necessary to follow up, and when the parties came into the Sadar and were warned, they consented to go on with their work.

(*d*) It is difficult to say whether any, and if so how much, pecuniary expenditure was involved to supervisors and enumerators. No charges have been paid on this account. Some supervisors have probably incurred some expenditure for travelling, and many miscellaneous items of expenditure may have arisen out of the work.

(*e*) No paid Census officers were employed in this district.

III.—THE ATTITUDE OF THE PEOPLE.

119. The attitude of the people was favourable to the Census. There were a few rumours of intended taxation, or of an intention to seize labourers or women, but these were not widely spread or generally believed. One little fellow, who was the head of his house, concealed the existence of his still younger brother for fear the latter should be carried away. But his fears were easily allayed. Again, the low castes considered the opportunity a good one for gaining a step which is not generally conceded to them by the orthodox Hindus, and men who are certainly descendants of the aboriginal tribes insisted on giving themselves new names which disguised this fact, such as Nama Sudras for Chandals, and in their distinctions Utta Rarhi for Halua; Rishi for Chamar; Lata Baidya for Barui; Shaha for Sundi or Shurie, Das for Dosi.

IV.—THE RESULT.

120. The result is, I think, accurate. The district population would, I believe, have been somewhat larger, but for the great bathing festival in the Ganges this year. But the people thus absent are doubtless shown elsewhere in the Provincial totals. The district increase is 14·56 per cent., or an increase of 304,306, and the present district population is 2,420,656.

121. I append a statement showing *thana* by *thana* the population at the Census of 1881 and at this Census, and the percentage of increase. The results are very much what I should have anticipated. Dacca town shows a small increase of 4·74 per cent. only. This would have been somewhat larger, but that the school boys were largely away on holidays, while in 1881 all were present. Narayanganj town shows a large increase, but this is partly made up by counting the boat population which was not included in the town population in 1881. At the same time, had the Census been in the busy season, when the jute presses are at full

work, the population would have been probably as much again as it is now shown. I think it would be worth while to try and ascertain the population of Narayanganj at that season.

Subdivision and Thana.	Total Population of both sexes.			Remarks.
	1881.	1891.	Increase (+) or Decrease(—)	
1	2	3	4	5
Sadar. — Dacca town, including Lalbagh and Kotwali.	80,358	83,633	+ 3,275	
Sadar. — Kapasia ...	119,515	142,598	+ 23,083	
Sadar. — Sabhar ...	174,831	207,474	+ 32,643	
Sadar. — Nawabganj ...	160,235	170,697	+ 10,462	
Sadar. — Keraniganj ...	164,090	186,534	+ 22,444	
Total ...	699,029	790,936	+ 91,907	
Narayanganj. — Narayanganj town	12,508	17,715	+ 5,207	
Narayanganj. — Narayanganj ...	91,252	120,490	+ 29,238	
Narayanganj. — Rupganj ...	164,159	197,052	+ 32,893	
Narayanganj. — Raipura ...	202,738	239,[illegible]	+ 36,521	
Total ...	470,657	574,516	+103,859	
Manikganj. — Manikganj ...	184,196	200,038	+ 15,842	
Manikganj. — Harirampur ...	100,009	100,308	+ 299	
Manikganj. — Sealoo Aircha or Jaffarganj.	143,012	148,753	+ 5,741	
Total ...	427,217	449,099	+ 21,882	
Munshiganj. — Munshiganj ...	243,463	292,847	+ 49,384	
Munshiganj. — Srinagar ...	275,984	313,258	+ 37,274	
Total ...	519,447	606,105	+ 86,658	
District Total ...	2,116,350	2,420,656	+304,306	

122. In the district the largest increase has been in Narayanganj town and then in Munshiganj *thana*. That the latter *thana* in which the population is so dense should have so largely increased, is significant. Kapasia, Sabhar, and Rupganj show the next largest increase. This is due to the reclamation of jungle and the pushing on of cultivation. There is still room for extension in these *thanas*.

123. The Manikganj subdivision and the Nawabganj *thana* show the smallest increase. This country seems to me to be deteriorating, and much land is out of cultivation or grows very little and poor crops. Harirampur *thana*, where there is actual decrease of population, has lost much land by diluviation.

124. I would suggest whether in this district where the post office has been largely developed, the village block lists would be turned to account as forming a kind of district directory. Distributed among the post offices to which the villages are subordinate, they might, if conveniently and properly arranged, serve as a check upon post office and other peons, as they would show all heads of houses in every village at this date.

125. Further, care should be taken to turn to account the information gained in this Census for local purposes. Numbered maps, Registers A and B, and some of the Census tables should not only be in the head office, but copies for their respective local areas should be given to subdivisions, and *thanas* and outposts, and also to the post office and Process Service Departments, or, conveniently arranged, information abstracted from the above might at all events be supplied. An immense amount of useful information lies buried in our record-rooms, because the requisite funds for turning it to ready account are not supplied.

126. In conclusion, I would beg to call special attention to the very great assistance rendered by Raja Rajendra Narain Roy, who did not only put all his officers freely at my

service, but also himself paid and appointed a general Superintendent over them The assistance I thus obtained in the difficult Bhawal *pargana* country was invaluable Many other gentlemen have cordially assisted me, amongst whom I may mention Babu Sarat Chandra Gupta, an Honorary Magistrate and Chairman of the Narayanganj Local Board, Babu (now Raja) Sri Nath Roy of Bhagyakul, Babu Chandra Kumar Sen of Hamchadi, Narayanganj *thana*, Maulvi Fazlal Rahaman of Kapasia, and Babu Rajendra Nath Mitra of Keraniganj. The officials rendered me cordial assistance, and to the police, the Sub-Registration and the Education and other departments, I owe the success of the Census. The work of the Subdivisional Officer of Manickganj, Babu Bangshi Dhar Banerjea, was exceptionally good.

ABSTRACTION AND TABULATION

127. As to the abstraction and tabulation, this office was opened here on the 30th March 1891 with one gang of abstractors consisting of 25 clerks, and on the 8th April, 4 other gangs were employed, the population of this district being nearly 2½ millions. Abstraction was completed here on the 25th July last, or six days before the date fixed by the Census Superintendent. The task of abstraction was not very heavy, and the full task was established after a week's training, and the abstractors made but a few mistakes, consequently much re-abstraction was not needed.

128. Tabulation was commenced on the 1st June and finished on the 15th August. The task in tabulation was too heavy and in many of the registers, specially in Registers I to VI, XV (occupation), and XIX (castes), it was impossible for the tabulators to finish their daily tasks during office hours.

129. Besides my own district, *thana* Gopalpur of the Mymensingh district, consisting of a population of a quarter million, was abstracted and tabulated here.

130. The pay allowed to the abstractors and tabulators was inadequate in consideration of the hard and tedious work they had to do. I have nothing to say as to the abstraction sheets and the registers. They appear to have been well suited for the purpose, but the forms were received somewhat late. The test-slip was a great improvement, and it was of the utmost value in securing the accuracy of the different sheets. The limit of adjustment was not high.

131. I agree with the opinion expressed in paragraph 3 of the Census Superintendent's Circular No. 98, dated 6th January 1892, except that instead of withholding a part of the pay of the abstractors, they should be paid a fixed pay of Rs. 15 and fined for mistakes, and that a separate re-abstracting and adjusting establishment should be kept.

132. The Deputy Magistrate, Babu Lalit Kumar Das, was in charge of the office, and he managed it most efficiently and satisfactorily with the assistance of his Inspector, Babu Bepin Behari Banerjee, and my best thanks are due to them for their exertions. The work was carried out with success and smoothly.